

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Boris E. Paton et al.	ATTY DKT NO. 7704.003DIV2
SERIAL NO. Unassigned	GROUP ART UNIT: Unassigned
FILED: Herwith	EXAMINER: Unassigned
TITLE: BONDING OF SOFT BIOLOGICAL TISSUES BY PASSING HIGH FREQUENCY ELECTRIC CURRENT THERE THROUGH	
TO: Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450	

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
WITHIN THREE MONTHS OF FILING OR BEFORE
MAILING OF FIRST OFFICE ACTION

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a First Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last. 37 CFR 1.97(b).

Applicants herewith disclose patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose. All items are listed in Form PTO/SB/08A (Substitute for Form 1449/PTO), which form accompanies this information statement.

This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. 120, on the earlier filing date of prior application Serial No. 09/022,869, filed on 02/12/1998.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

The person making this statement is the attorney who signs below on the basis of the information in the attorney's file.

Dated: 9/26/03

GUNN, LEE & HANOR, P.C.
700 North St. Mary's Street , Suite 1500
San Antonio, Texas 78205-3596
Tel. No. (210) 886-9500




Charles W. Hanor, Reg. No. 27,132

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited on the date shown below with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to "Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450", as follows:

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>37 CFR 1.8(a)</u></p> <p>[] With sufficient postage as First Class Mail.</p> <p>Date: _____, 19__</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>37 CFR 1.10</u></p> <p>[X] As "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee", Mailing Label No. <u>EL 970002524 US</u>.</p> <p>Date: September <u>26</u>, 2003</p>
--	---

Maria Del Jesus N. Vidaurri
Printed Name of Person Mailing Paper or Fee


Signature of Person Mailing Paper or Fee

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 3

Complete if Known

Application Number	Unassigned
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	Boris E. Paton
Art Unit	Unassigned
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	7704.003DIV2

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1	US- 5431645	07/11/1995	Smith, et al.	
	2	US- 5423814	06/13/1995	Zhu, et al.	
	3	US- 4492231	01/08/1985	Auth	
	4	US- 3980085	09/1976	Ikuno	
	5	US- 4418692	12/1983	Guay	
	6	US- 4471787	09/1984	Bentall	
	7	US- 4556051	12/1985	Maurer	
	8	US- 4633870	01/1987	Sauer	
	9	US- 4738250	04/1988	Fulkerson et al.	
	10	US- 4892098	01/1990	Sauer	
	11	US- 5151102	09/1992	Kimayama et al.	
	12	US- 5158081	10/1992	McWhorter et al.	
	13	US- 5190541	03/1993	Abele et al.	
	14	US- 5300065	04/1994	Anderson	
	15	US- 5336221	08/1994	Anderson	
	16	US- 5342381	08/1994	Tidemand	
	17	US- 5342393	08/1994	Stack	
	18	US- 5364389	11/1994	Anderson	
	19	US- 5403312	04/1995	Taymor-Luria	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	B1	DE 196 41 563 A1	04/23/1998			
	B2	WO 98/38935	03/05/1998			
	B3	WO 97/10764	08/12/1996			
	B4	EP 0 761 174 A1	09/02/1996			
	B5	EP 0 703 461 A1	09/22/1995			

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ F or Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet **2** of **3****Complete if Known**

Application Number	Unassigned
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	Boris E. Paton
Art Unit	Unassigned
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	7704.003DIV2

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	20	US- 5443463	08/1995	Stern et al.	
	21	US- 5450845	09/1995	Axelgaard	
	22	US- 5507744	04/1996	Tay et al.	
	23	US- 5558671	09/1996	Yates	
	24	US- 5776130	07/1998	Buyse et al.	
	25	US- 5827271	10/1998	Buyse et al.	
	26	US- 5496312	03/15/1996	Kliceck	
	27	US- 5415657	05/16/1995	Taymor-Luria	
	28	US- 4154240	05/1979	Ikuno et al.	
	29	US- 5954686	09/1999	Garito et al.	
	30	US- 5562503	10/08/1996	Ellman et al.	
	31	US- 5713896	02/1998	Nardella	
	32	US- 5718701	02/1998	Shai et al.	
	33	US- 5476481	12/1995	Schondorf	
	34	US- 5817093	10/1998	Williamson IV et al.	
	35	US- 6086586	07/11/2000	Hooven	
	36	US- 5540684	07/30/1996	Hassler, Jr.	
	37	US- 6228080	05/08/2001	Gines	
	38	US- 6245065	06/12/2001	Panescu et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ F or Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	Unassigned
		Filing Date	Herewith
		First Named Inventor	Boris E. Paton
		Art Unit	Unassigned
		Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet 3 of 3	Attorney Docket Number	7704.003DIV2	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	C1	"Automatically controlled bipolar electrocoagulation" by Valifors and Bergdahi, Neurosurgery Rev. 7 (1984), pp. 187-190.	
	C2	"The mechanism of blood vessel closure by high frequency electrocoagulation", Sigel et al., Surgery Gynecology & Obstetrics, pp. 823-831, October 1965	
	C3	Bergdahl B., Vallfors B. "Studies on coagulation and the development of an automatic computerized bipolar coagulator," Journal of Neurosurgery 1991, Jul; 75(1): 148-51	
		(abstract only)	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
--------------------	--	-----------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:

Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.